

AN' 1711. took Post all along the Road, from *Dollgrub* to *Valenciennes*. Here he expected the rest of the Troops, which were to form his Army look'd for the Arrival of Prince *Eugene*, who had been detain'd at *Vienna*, and in the *Empire*. The unexpected Death of the *Emperour Joseph*. He spent some Days about *Frankfort*, to concert with the *Elector of Mentz*, the necessary Measures for the Security of the *Empire*, and to view the Lines and other Posts. Having given such Directions as he thought necessary in these Parts, he proceeded to the Court of the *Elector Palatine*, to regulate several Matters with that Prince, who, as one of the Vicars of the *Empire*, was to have the chief Administration thereof during the *Inter-regnum*.

His Highness, having made these necessary Dispositions for the Security of the *Empire*, arriv'd at the *Hague*, the fifth of *May*; But being oblig'd to continue there, for some Time, did not join the Grand Army, till the twenty-third of that Month. Having dined, that Day, with the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Confederate Generals (who were met together to celebrate the Anniversary of the Battle of *Ramellies*) he went, in the Evening, to his Quarters, at the Abbey of *Anchin*.

THE Confederate Army being now fully assembled, consisted as follows: The *Right Wing*, under Command of Prince *Eugene* of 65 Battalions of Foot, and 120 Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons; The *Left*, under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough*, of 119 Battalions and 226 Squadrons; Together, 184 Battalions, and 341 Squadrons, with 111 Cannon, 8 *Hawbitzers*, and 40 Pontons. His Grace, and the Prince resolv'd to continue neither

Posts,

as long as possible, in Hopes, that the AN' 1711.
great of Forrage would oblige the Enemy
toed, and

put the Troops were thus encamp'd, the
Duke of Marlborough wrote the two following
Letters to a Gentleman with whom he had a
regular Correspondence; By which you may see
how desirous he was to continue his Services for
the Good of the Common Cause.

TRANSLATION of a Letter, from the
Duke of Marlborough, to Monsieur ****
the Hague.

From the Camp at Warde, May 17, 1711.

SIR,

I AM very much obliged to you for the
News you was pleas'd to communicate
to me, by the last Post; And beg the Con-
tinuance of it, as often as any Thing occurs
worthy of Remark. When you advise me,
that you are upon your Departure from the
Hague, I will trouble you with a Letter to
his Electoral Highness: (of Hanover.)
EVERY Thing is ver quiet here on both
Sides; But the Troops have suffer'd some-
thing by the bad Weather, which I hope be-
gins to change for the better.

I am, &c.

The Prince and Duke of Marlborough.

AN 1711. TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Duke of Marlborough to Monsieur Lock'd at the Hague.

From the Camp at Warde, May 3, 1711.

SIR,

A Letter from the Duke of Marlborough to Mons. **** at the Hague. I AM highly oblig'd to you for the Letter you wrote me, the 21st of this Month, as well as for that you communicated to me on the Affairs of the King of Sweden; The latter I return you inclos'd, having kept, a Copy of it, in Order to make such Use of it, as shall be requisite, according to the Liberty you allow me, which you may depend on it, I shall not exceed.

By this Time, you will have received all the Letters which were wanting, from England, and by them have received an ample Account what Measures will be there taken, in the present Conjunction, to concur with those of the other Allies, and to take the Advantage, as much as may be, of the good Intention of those, who continue ever stedfast for the Common Cause: Towards which, it is not yet Time for us, in these Parts, to contribute any great Matter: But we must hope, that it will please the ALMIGHTY, to present us with some favourable Opportunity for it, which we shall not neglect.

I am, &c.

The Prince and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

The French General was, in the mean AN' 1711.
 great so far from being under any Apprehen-
 sion, that, upon the News of the *Confederate Army* being *Marshal de Villars sends a Detachment to the Upper Rhine.*
 the made a Detachment of fifteen *Battalions*, and as many Squadrons, *for the Upper Rhine.*
Rhine, pursuant to a Resolution *pass'd* by the
 French Court, of invading the *Empire* and ob-
 structing, as much as possible, the Election, of
 King Charles III to the Imperial Dignity: And *And pretends to oppose the Election of King Charles.*
 it was confidently reported, that the Duke of
 Bavaria was to set out very speedily for *Stras-*
burg, in Order to command that Expedition, *or, at least, a strong Detachment, with which he was to attempt the Passage of the Black Forest, and so penetrate into Bavaria, whilst til Marshal de Harcourt, with the Rest of the French Army, which was to be re-inforc'd with a considerable Body of Troops from Dauphiny, should attack the Germans, in the Lines of Etlingen: These Reports were rendered still more probable, by a Journey the Marquis de Torcy took, at this Time, to Champagne, to confer, as it was believed, with the Elector of Bavaria, about this Design; And it was farther said, that this Elector was to go in Person, and have an Interview with His most Christian Majesty, at Marli.*

Tho' these Reports were grounded chiefly *Prince Eugene sends a Detachment to the Rhine,*
 on Suppositions; Yet Prince Eugene thought
 himself oblig'd, as General of the *Empire*, to
 consult the Security of it. He, therefore, de-
 tach'd Count Belsz, with the *Imperial and Pala-*
tine Troops, consisting of fifty Squadrons, and
 twelve Battalions, with Orders to observe the
 March of the Enemy's Detachment, and move
 accordingly; His Highness designing to join
 them

AN' 1711. them himself at their passing the *Rhin* at *Coblentz*, after taking a Tour to the *Hague*, to concert Measures with the *States-General* of the

MONSIEUR de Villars, believing him

The French
send two De-
tachments more
thither.

was still of sufficient Force, to resist any *French* Army, but he sent away the first Detachment, having been computed to consist of 192 Battalions of Foot, and 348 Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons, with 90 Pieces of Cannon, and 12 *Hawbitzers*, or little Mortars, resolv'd to send a second Detachment, consisting of ten Battalions and six and twenty Squadrons, with Orders to follow the first: And to convince the *French* Court of the Truth of his Assertion, that his Army was so disposed, as to have nothing to fear from the *Confederates*, he made a third Detachment, of two Brigades of Foot and one of Horse, who were to follow the same Route as the two former. These Notions of Security, which the *French* had embraced, proceeded, probably, from the Inactivity, in which the *Confederate* Army had hitherto remained, and their General was so fond as to believe, they would not dare to attempt the Passage of the Lines.

Reason of the
Security of the
French.

Some small
Skirmishes-
between Par-
ties of the two
Armies.

AND, indeed, nothing remarkable had hitherto happen'd, except some small Encounters, in which the Enemy had some little Advantages: Especially at *Mortagne*, where a Detachment of 1900 Men, of the Garrison of *Condé*, and 1100 of the Garrison of *Valenciennes*, commanded by *Monsieur Permaigne*, surprized a Convoy of five and forty Boats, laden with Hay and Corn, going up the *Scarpe*, from *Tournay* to the Army, and convoy'd by two Battalions, under the Command of *Brigadier Chambrier*, a *Swiss*. The Engagement was very hot, and the

the Battalions behav'd bravely, for above an great But the Enemy being so much superi- ed, Number, and throwing some combustibles into the Boats, set fire to them, and sunk thirty, and took the Brigadier, with several other Officers, Prisoners, dispersing the Rest, after they had killed and wounded about 500 of them.

THIS is the most general Account given of this Action; But there are other Accounts which say, that the Garrison of *St. Amand* advancing to the Assistance of the Guard, the Enemy retir'd, having first set on Fire twelve of the Boats, with the Loss of about a hundred Men kill'd and wounded, and the *Allies* lost about the same Number.

ANOTHER Party of the Enemy, under the Command of the Count *de Villars*, march'd out of *Ipres*, and attack'd a small Fort, at *Harlebeck*, in which were only forty Men, commanded by Lieutenant *Dunbar*, of Lieutenant-General *Murray's* Regiment, who, after a brave Resistance, were made Prisoners. On the other Hand, a Detachment of the Enemy's Grenadiers, sustained by four hundred Hussars, endeavour'd to surprize a Post, the *Allies* had taken at the Convent of *Sirmy*, but were repuls'd, by three hundred *English*, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Chalmley*, of the Guards, with Loss.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* march'd, with the Army under his Command, the fourteenth of June, in six Columns, over the *Scarpe*, in the Sight of the Enemy, and encamp'd in the Plains of *Lis*, without the least Interruption. His Design by this Motion, was in Hopes to draw the Enemy to some Action; And they did,

AN^d 1711. did, indeed, alter the Situation of their Camp, and began to lay Bridges, over the Scheldt, if they design'd to pass it. This oblig'd the Duke to look'd upon that Supposition, he look'd upon it as inevitable: But the Enemy made no further Motion, and a hundred Dragoons, with the same Number of *Hussars*, of the *Allems*, advancing almost to the Banks of the Scheldt, over against the Left of the Enemy's Camp, where some Bridges were laid, a small Number of them shewed themselves to the Enemy, while the Rest remained unseen at a Distance. Upon this, three hundred of the Enemy's Horse pursued them to their Body of Reserve; But they were charged with so much Vigour, that forty were kill'd on the Spot, and two Captains, a Cornet, with fifteen private Men, taken Prisoners.

A Skirmish to the Disadvantage of the Enemy.

A fruitless Attempt on their Side.

THE eighteenth, in the Night, the whole *Picquet* of the French Grand Army advanc'd from Arras to Vimi Chateau, designing to surprize a small advanc'd Guard of four hundred Men, posted there, from the Confederate Grand Army at Lens; But they being discover'd, in Time, the Guard was in a Posture to receive them, and, upon their Approach, firing briskly upon them, they made a Halt: By this Time, the Army was alarm'd, and the *Picquet* being order'd out, to assist the advanc'd Guard, the Enemy immediately retreated to their Camp at Arras.

THE Duke of Marlborough being inform'd, that after he had left his former Camp, the Enemy had repair'd the Dyke at Arleux, in Order to stop the Waters of the *Senset*, from running into the Canal of Douay, and thence into

The Duke of Marlborough takes the Post of Arleux.

the Starpe, thereby rendering this last River *AN 1711.*
 great navigable; And that they had, like-
 wise, *besieged* the Castle of *Chasterin*, and cast
 it *besieged* before the Mills of *Arleux*. His
 Majesty therefore, ordered those Posts to be at-
 tacked by 700 Men, of the Garrison of *Douay*,
 supported by the Picquets of his whole Army;
 who, marching all Night, took Post between
 the Villages of *Sailly* and *L'Ecluse*, to prevent
 any Succours from the Enemy. The Conduct
 of the *French*, on this Occasion, was unac-
 countable; For they lay quiet all the while, tho'
 the *Right Wing* of their Army was not above
 a League off, whereas that of the *Allies* was
 above five. The Post was carried with a great
 deal of Courage, and Ninety Soldiers, a Cap-
 tain, and three Subalterns, who were in Gar-
 rison in the Castle, together with five and
 twenty Men, and one Subaltern, in the Re-
 doubt before the Mills, were taken Prisoners.

THE Duke considering the great Importance *And causes it,*
 of this Post, ordered Monsieur *Des Roques*, an *to be fortified.*
 Engineer, with 600 Men, to fortify it; And
 left the Workmen should be interrupted by the
 Neighbourhood of the Enemy, Count *Hompesch*
 march'd with Ten Battalions, and Twelve
 Squadrons, and encamp'd at *Fieren*, in order to
 cover them. Monsieur *de Villars*, getting In-
 telligence of this March, and being jealous to *The Enemy*
 see the *Allies* fortifying a Place of that Im- *surprize Count*
 portance, under his very Nose, resolved to op- *Hompesch's*
 pose them. To this End, as he took Care al- *Camp.*
 ways to act upon sure Grounds, and never to
 hazard an Attack, but with a considerable Ad-
 vantage, he detach'd the Count *de Gassion*, and
 the Count *de Voigni*, both Lieutenant-Generals,
 with two and thirty Squadrons, Part of the
 King's

AN' 1711 King's Household, and Part of other Cavalry, Dragoons and Hussars, about One in the Morning; who, by the Advantage of a dark Night, passed the Out-guards unseen, and surprized four of the Squadrons, commanded by Count Hompesch, put them into Disorder: But the other Squadrons, with the Battalions of Selwin and St. Maurice, coming to their Assistance, some in their Shirts, and some half dressed, with Sword in Hand, they soon put a Stop to the Enemy's Career, and obliged them to retire. The four Squadrons, which were thus surprized, suffer'd very much, and their Horses breaking loose from their Piquets, about 300 of them were dispersed, and about Fifty carried off by the Enemy; But the rest returned by Degrees. The Loss, however, besides this, was very inconsiderable, and cost the Enemy dear enough; Tho' they were not wanting to magnify the Advantage greatly, and pretended that they cut off the whole Detachment. According to the Marquis de Quincy's Account, Count Hompesch himself allowed his Loss, on this Occasion, to have been 950 Men kill'd, 1300 wounded, and 12 or 1300 Horses taken. But I find no such Account.

The Loss of the Allies, however, inconsiderable.

The Duke of Marlborough changes the Situation of his Camp.

UPON hearing of this Accident, the Duke of Marlborough went thither the next Day, and, to prevent the like again, ordered, not only that the Situation of his Camp should be changed; but that all Diligence should be used to compleat the Works begun at Arleux. As soon as they were finish'd, Colonel Savary was ordered to garrison that Place, with 600 Men under his Command.

THE Marshal de Villars, who himself was AN^d 1711.
 advanced, with Part of his Army, to support
 25 and thirty Squadrons, in Case any *The French*
 Attachments had been made from the *Confede-*
rate Army, to oppose them, summoned Colo-
 nel Savary, who commanded in Arleux, to sur-
 render, telling him, at the same Time, that
 the Troops under Count Hompesch were entire-
 ly cut off: But the Colonel answered him,
 that he had both Men and Ammunition to
 defend his Post to the last Extremity; And
 the Marshal put up with this Answer, without
 daring to attempt any Thing farther.

THUS Matters remained, till the twen-
 tieth of July, when the Duke of Marlborough,
 seeing no Likelihood of bringing the Enemy to
 an Engagement, decamp'd from the Plains of
 Lens, and came to Gonay, in the Neighbour-
 hood of Bethune, and from thence, the next
 Day, to Cot, near Aire.

JUST before the Army decamp'd, the two
 following Letters were written, one by Mr.
 Cardonnel, and the other by the Duke himself.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr.
 Cardonnel, to Monsieur *** at Hanover.

From the Camp at Lens, July 19, 1711.

SIR,

I RECEIVED the Honour of your Letter *A Letter from*
 of the 16th Instant, which I immediate- *Mr. Cardon-*
 ly communicated to my Lord Duke, and *nel to Monsieur*
 have made Use of it according to your ***** at Ha-*
 Desire. *nover.*

WE

AN 1711

" WE are, without Doubt, very unhappy
 " as to this *Northern* Affair. For my Part
 " I believe the only Means to make our
 " selves easy in it, would be to send the Body,
 " design'd for the Preservation of the *Neutra-*
 " lity, to the *Rhine*, if King *Augustus* should
 " recall his Troops which are here: The Loss
 " would not be great; Because, according to
 " their own Confession, that Body is not half
 " compleat, and they have kept back more
 " than 4000 Recruits, all this While, in their
 " own Country. In my Opinion, we should,
 " without Hesitation, give that Prince to un-
 " derstand, that H^e might recall those Troops,
 " when He pleas'd, the sooner the better;
 " And that an Abatement would be made of
 " the Pay for the Recruits, for the whole Time
 " they were wanting. I am perswaded, that
 " after such a Declaration, he would not be
 " in such Haste to recall his Troops; But
 " would soon cause his Recruits to march. At
 " worst the Loss would not be very great.

I am, &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

THE Dispute with King *Augustus*, concern-
 ing the *Saxon* Troops, which occasioned this
 Letter, being very well known, and not im-
 mediately to my Purpose, I pass it by.

TRAN-

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Duke of Marlborough, to Monsieur **** at the Hague. AN 1711.

From the Camp at Lens, July 20, 1711.

SIR,

ENCLOSED you have the Letter, which I have done myself the Honour of writing to His Electoral Highness (of Hanover) to thank Him for that He honoured me with, by your Means. I wish you a good Journey, and beg you would assure the Elector, and the whole Electoral House, of my most humble Duty. You will find that most Serene House encreas'd by the Birth of a Princess, on which Occasion I heartily congratulate you, and am, &c.

*A Letter from the Duke of Marlborough to Monsieur **** at the Hague.*

The Prince and Duke of Marlborough.

UPON this Motion of the Confederate Army, The French the Marshal de Villars, likewise, made a Motetake Arleux, tion, and encamp'd, with his Right, at Etrun, near Arras, and his Left, at Hesdin. From thence he sent Eight and Twenty Battalions, and Thirty Squadrons, to recover the Post of Arleux; A Force sufficient to have invested a large Fortrefs; To which he added a Stratagem, and pretended this Detachment was design'd for the Sambre. The Marshal de Montesquieu commanded this Expedition, in Person, and attack'd this small Post in Form; First cannonading, and then storming it, Sword in Hand. The Duke of Marlborough was no sooner inform'd

AN' 1751. of this, than he immediately detach'd General *Fagel*, with Forty Squadrons (some Accounts say General *Cadogan*, with Thirty Squadrons) and all the Grenadiers of the Army, to hinder their Design; but they came too late. The Garrison made a gallant Defence, and repuls'd the Enemy, with a great Slaughter, in Three several Attacks; But what could 600 Men do against a whole Army? They were oblig'd, at Length, to surrender the Place, the Garrison, together with their Commander, being made Prisoners of War.

THE *French*, for Want of greater Causes of Triumph, made a great Work about this small Conquest, and, to magnify the Honour of it, pretended the Number of their Forces, employ'd in this mighty Action, to have been much less, than in Reality it was: The following Account of this Matter was published, at that Time, in *Paris*.

Paris Account
of it.

“ THE Enemy having taken the Redoubts
“ of *Arleux*, defended by Seventy Men, and
“ the Mill, in which were only Fifteen Men,
“ separated from the *French* Army, by impracticable Morasses, they work'd for Three
“ Weeks together, to put them into such a
“ Posture, that they could not be attack'd
“ but by a formal Siege. They erected a very
“ good Fort, surrounded with Three Ditches,
“ which covered Three several Works, lin'd
“ with *Pallisadoes*, and put a Garrison of 500
“ Men in it, under Colonel *Savary*, with Ten
“ Pieces of Cannon, and a great Quantity of
“ Ammunition, besides 130 Men in the Mill.
“ Nevertheless, the Marshal *de Villars* only
“ waited till the Enemy's Army should remove a March's Distance from it, to caule
“ it

it to be attack'd again ; Which they doing, Aug. 1711.
 the Twentieth, upon a Supposition that the
 Post was now secure, the Marshal detach'd
 the Count *d'Estain*, with Twelve Battalions,
 and Eight Squadrons, to go to *Quievrain*,
 near *Mons*, but sent him Orders to halt at
 " *Cambray*. The Marshal *de Montesquiou*
 " would take upon him the Charge and Care of
 " this Expedition, and Monsieur *de Villars*
 " consented to it. The Artillery was conduct-
 " ed, the Bridges on the *Sanset* made, and the
 " Troops under the Command of the Count
 " *d'Estain*, the Marquis *de Coigny*, and the
 " Prince *d'Isenguien* march'd, with so much
 " Diligence and Secrecy, that the Post was in-
 " vested, the 23d, at Break of Day, before the
 " Enemy had any Notice of the Design. The
 " Besieged defended themselves very bravely,
 " and yet the Mill and the Fort were taken
 " by Storm, at One, in the Afternoon, and
 " the Garrison made Prisoners of War, as a
 " Reprisal for the like Treatment made to the
 " *French*, when the *Allies* took that Post. The
 " Officers and Soldiers shew'd an extraordinary
 " Valour, wading thro' the Ditches up to their
 " Middle. The *Sieur de Tbil*, Brigadier, had
 " one of his Legs broke ; the *Sieur La Fonde*
 " was dangerously wounded, but we lost but
 " Fifteen or Twenty Men, whereas the Be-
 " sieged had above 150 Men kill'd, and a
 " greater Number wounded." A very pro-
 " bable Account, indeed, that Troops uncovered,
 " and expos'd to the Fire both of the Cannon and
 " small Arms of their Enemy, attempting a
 " strong Fort by Storm, should lose but a Tenth
 " Part of the Number lost by those they attack'd
 " under the Shelter of a good and regular For-
 " tification,

AN^d 1711. tification, who, according to their own Account, defended themselves bravely.

The Duke resolves to attempt the Lines by a Stratagem.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* was now fully determined, to attempt getting within the Enemy's Lines; Of which we have the following Description: They began at *Bouchain*, on the *Scheld*, and were continued along the *Senfet*, and the *Scarpe*, to *Arras*; From thence, along the *Upper Scarpe*, and the River, to the *Canche*, the Opening to those Rivers being entrench'd and fortified (with all possible Care) by a large Ditch, defended with Redoubts and other Works. His Grace, upon a narrow View, finding that it would be too dangerous, to endeavour to force them, he resolv'd upon a Stratagem. That he might the better compass his Design, and make the Enemy believe, that he really intended to attack them, he ordered 1200 Men out, to make Roads and Bridges in the Front, and advanced, with the whole Army, to *Rebreuve*, and from thence to *Villars Brulin*, within two Leagues of the Lines. Here he set all his Troops to work, in making Fascines, but gave strict Orders for them not to exceed the Length of four Foot, that they might not tire the Infantry, too much, to carry them, and gave out, that he intended to attack the Lines, the next Morning. The *French* General was so fully perswaded of it, that he sent Orders to a strong Detachment, commanded by Lieutenant General *Count d'Estain*, which had been sent upon a secret Expedition, to halt at *Peronne*, and to the Garrisons of *Ipres* and *St. Omer*, to come and join his Army, which he drew all together, behind the Lines.

THE Day before the Duke of *Marlborough* began to put this Project in Execution,

Mr.

Mr. Cardonnel, his Grace's Secretary, wrote the AN^o 1711
following Letter to Monsieur **** at Hannover.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from Mr.
Cardonnel, to Monsieur **** at Hannover.

From the Camp at Villars-Brulin, August 3, 1711.

SIR,

“ I HAVE received the Honour of your Letter, of the 30th past, and rejoice that you found My Lord Duke's Letter, to his Electoral Highness, to your Mind. I likewise hope that it will be of some Advantage to you; For I can assure you, it was written with that View.

*A Letter from
Mr. Cardonnel to Mon-
sieur **** at
Hannover.*

“ WE are, at present, in a pretty critical Situation; We have march'd two Days to come near the Enemy, and are now but at two small Leagues distance from them. Monsieur de Villars has assembled all the Troops he could, and our Advices even say, that the Garrisons of *Ipres* and *St. Omer* are in March to join him. Nevertheless, we may probably attempt to force his Lines, before two Days are at an End, all possible Preparations being making for that End: Tho' the Weather is not the most favourable; It having rain'd continually to Day, from Noon to this Hour, (eight in the Evening.) Pray my Respects to Monsieur *Bothmar*, and believe me to be, &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

P. S. “ My Lord Duke has received your Letter, with the inclos'd; But hopes you will be so good to excuse his not answering, in this Hurry.

THE Duke, to amuse the Enemy more effectually, went, the fourth of *August*, N. S. by Break of Day, with several of the General Officers, and 2000 Horse, to take a nearer View of the Lines, and of the Situation of the Enemy's Camp: But his real Design, when he advanced from *Coté*, was to endeavour to get within the Enemy's Lines, by attempting the Passage of the *Senset*, by *Arleux*, which he now believed was left unguarded, (as in Effect, it happen'd to be.) To this End, he ordered Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, and Count *Hompesch* to repair, with all Expedition, to *Douay*, and assemble some Troops, that were left, on Purpose, thereabout, which, together with a Detachment of that, and the neighbouring Garrisons, of *Lisle* and *St. Amand*, made together a Body of three and twenty Battalions, and seventeen Squadrons. Their farther Orders were to march directly, with these Troops, to *Arleux*, and endeavour to pass the *Senset*, while the Duke himself would advance, with the whole Army, to sustain them. And that nothing might retard this extraordinary March, Brigadier *Sutton* was sent before-hand, with the Artillery, and Pontons, under a good Guard, to make Bridges over the *Scarpe*, near *Vitry*, and over the Canal of *Arleux* near *Goulezin*: And Bread was ordered to be baked, at *Lisle*, for six Days.

ALL these Things were manag'd so privately, and the Grimace carried on so well, that the Confederate Generals themselves had not the least Thought that any Thing else was meant, but the Attacking of the Lines the next Morning.

They

AN' 1711.
The Duke goes
to view the
Lines.

His real De-
sign.

He begins to
put it in Exe-
cution.

These Amusements had so good an Effect on AN' 1710: the Marshal, that he kept his Troops under Arms, Night and Day, and re-inforc'd them with all the Strength he could possibly draw together, on that Side, not leaving any Number of Troops in the Posts he had upon the *Senset*.

THE *Confederate* Army, in the mean Time, were expecting Orders to march, which were not given out, till six in the Evening. The March was to begin, between eight and nine, as soon as it was dark enough to strike their Tents, without being discover'd by the Enemy; But whether the March was to be to the *Right* or *Left* was not known. They were only told, that the several Columns, which the Army was to march in, should find an Officer, at the Head of each of them, at such an Hour, who should lead them the Way they were to take, when the Time came.

ABOUT nine, the whole Army, to their great Surprise, were order'd to march by the *Left*, in four Columns, without Beat of Drum, and the Duke himself, with the Horse of the *Left Wing*, led the *Van*, and advanc'd, with such extraordinary Expedition, that, the next Morning, by five, he pass'd the *Scarpe*, at *Vitry*. Here he received Advice, that Count *Hompesch* had pass'd the *Senset*, without any Opposition, had taken Possession of the Passes, on that River, and on the *Scheld*, at *Oisy*; The *French* having some Time before, withdrawn the Detachments they had on that Side. His Grace, upon this, hastened his March, lest the Enemy should get there before him; And, at the same Time, dispatch'd Orders to the Grand Army, to pursue their March, with the utmost Diligence.

The Army marches towards Arleux.

Count Hompesch passes the Senset.

AN^d 1711. THE Duke, with his *Van-guard* of fifty Squadrons, having pass'd the *Scarpe*, hasten'd towards *Arleux*, and *Bac à Bacheul*, where he arriv'd beore eight o' Clock, and the Head of the Columns join'd him there about ten. Having march'd above ten Hours, at a great Rate, without halting, a Diligence hardly to be parallell'd in History.

The Marshal
de Villars
marches co op-
pose him:

THE Marshal *de Villars* had no sooner Notice how he had been deceived, and of this unexpected March of the *Confederate Army*, but he was immediately apprehensive of their Design. He, therefore, after having waited from eleven at Night, 'till two the next Morning, for certain Intelligence, decamp'd, with his whole Army, and putting himself at the Head of the King's Household, march'd all Night, with such Diligence, that he appear'd, with the Head of his Line, about eleven o' Clock, soon after the Duke of *Marlborough* had join'd Count *Hompesch*, and pass'd, with twenty Squadrons, thro' the *Defilee* of *Marquion*; But when he saw, that the Duke was advancing, with his Horse drawn up, to attack him, he retr eated behind a Morass, where the Rest of his Troops join'd him quickly after; And 100 Dragoons, with some few Officers, whom he threw into the Castle of *Oisy*, were soon after made Prisoners of War. Two Regiments, which the Marshal *de Villars* detach'd, under the Command of the *Chevalier de Luxembourg*, for *Valenciennes*, and a Brigade of Foot, sent to *Cambray*, had, however, better Luck, and threw themselves into those Places.

But comes too
late.

The Marshal
extremely
mortified

It was, beyond all Doubt, a sensible Mortification to the Marshal *de Villars*, to be thus visibly out-general'd, after he had given the Court

AN^d 1711.

Court of *France* repeated Assurances, that he had taken such Measures, as put him beyond Apprehension of meeting with any Insult from *Allies*, and after he had written to the *French King*, that these Lines were the NON PLUS ULTRA of the Duke of *Marlborough*. He, therefore, gave out, in Order to keep up the Spirits of his Troops, that he would attack the Duke of *Marlborough*, the next Morning.

FRENCH Writers pretend, that the Duke of *Marlborough's* Design, in this Enterprize, was to have passed both the *Senset* and the *Scheld*, before the *Marshal de Villars* should be able to get to the latter, to oppose his Passage; But that, by the *Marshal's* extraordinary Diligence, seeing the *French* Troops before him, ready to dispute that Passage, he began to be much discontented, and to repent of his Temerity. He found he could not remain in that Situation, and that he should be obliged to pass, either the *Senset*, or the *Scheld*, with his Army; Both which would be attended with great Danger; Because, the Enemy being so near, it was to be fear'd, when Part of his Army was pass'd either of these Rivers, the *Marshal* would fall upon the other Part, which would not then be in a Condition to resist his whole Force. It will be natural now to ask, why *Monsieur de Villars*, having these Advantages, did not pursue them? Why truly (*continues my Author*) he had his Reasons for not doing it, which tho' they could not be divid into then, were afterwards very evident; A pretty Come-off! It is certain, the Duke was under no such Apprehensions, as the Reader will soon see.

His Grace having, however, Intelligence of the *Marshal's* Threats, tho' he had little Reason

*Pretences of
the French
to palliate the
Matter*

AN' 1711. son to fear the Consequences of them, lost no Time, but drew out his Troops, as fast as they arriv'd, in Order of Battle, and they lay up their Arms all Night, tho' they could not but be extremely fatigued, after a March of ten Leagues, without halting.

*The whole
Confederate
Army pass'd
the French
Lines.*

THUS the whole *Confederate Army* entered the *French Lines*, which they had so vainly boasted to be impenetrable; The most noble and boldest Attempt that had been made during the whole War: And the Honour of this Attempt was the greater to the Duke of *Marlborough*, as his Army was not only weakened, by the Detachment which Prince *Eugene* had carried to the *Rhine*; But by the calling over 5,000 of the best Troops in his Army, for an Expedition design'd by Sea; So that the Enemy were actually superiour to him in Number.

*Great Honour
to the Duke of
Marlborough.*

“ THIS (says a late Author) rais'd his Character, beyond all that he had done formerly; The Design was so well laid, and was so happily executed, that, in all Men's Opinions, it pass'd for a Master-piece of military Skill; The Honour of it falling entirely on the Duke of *Marlborough*, no other Person having any Share, except in the Execution.

His just Encomium.

THE wise and prudent Management of this whole Design was as great a Mortification to the *Marshal de Villars*, as it was a Glory to our *Incomparable Hero*. A Glory that was his, and only his, and which Envy itself could never fully. It was a Kind of Trial of Skill between the *British* and the *French* Generals; In which the former obtain'd a compleat Victory over the

the latter, without striking a Stroke; A Victory in which the Armies, on both Sides, only shew their Appearance, to grace, and set it off, with the greater Lustre and Magnificence. In Battles, and Sieges, Chance, the Valour of Soldiers, the Skill of Engeniers, and a thousand other Circumstances, concur, to share the good or ill Success of them, with the General; But here, the great Duke of *Marlborough*, and he alone, shines forth, in the Height of Glory, without a Rival or Competitor, and triumphs over every Difficulty. The *Allies* would willingly have purchased these Lines at the Expence of some thousands of Men; But by his Wisdom, they became Masters of them, with no other Cost, but that of a little Fatigue, and a diligent and assiduous March of their Troops; A March hardly to be match'd but by another, which proceeded from the same inimitable Forefight, I mean that which brought on the Battle of *Oudenarde*. The *French* General, blinded by the trifling Conquest of *Arleux*, weakned by the great Detachment he made from his Army to obtain it, and puff'd up with this Shadow of good Fortune, threatens all *Brabant*; But is lull'd asleep by a fond Security for his own Lines: Our *BRITISH HERO* observes the Critical Moment, lays hold of it, and surprizes these Lines, without the Loss of a Man. The Design, the Secrecy, and, in short, the whole Management of it, were equally great and wonderful.

A Comparison between his and the Marshal de Villars's Conduct.

I MUST not, on this Occasion, omit a Paragraph of the incomparable *Spectator*, of the ninth of *August*, of this Year, soon after the News of this Glorious Action came to *England*; Where

AN' 1711 Where the Author, in Order to raise an Idea of true Glory, having given his Readers a brief Comparison, between the Glory of Lewis France, and Peter, of Russia, both surnamed the Great, concludes his Paper, with these memorable Words:

“ BUT let us consider (says he) what is truly Glorious.

“ The Perfection of Glory, says Tully, consists in these three Particulars, *that the People love us, that they have Confidence in us, that being affected with a certain Admiration towards us, they think we deserve Honour.*

“ This was spoken of Greatness in a Commonwealth: But if one were to form a Notion of consummate Glory under our Constitution, one must add, to the abovementioned Felicities, a certain necessary Inexistence, and Disrelish of all the Rest, without the Prince's Favour. He should methinks, have Riches, Power, Honour, Command, Glory; But Riches, Power, Honour, Command and Glory, should have no Charms, but as accompanied with the Affection of his Prince. He should, methinks, be Popular, because a Favourite, and a Favourite, because Popular. Were it not to make the Character too imaginary, I would give him Sovereignty over some foreign Territory, and make him esteem that an empty Addition, without the kind Regards of his own Prince. One may meerly have an Idea of a Man thus composed, and circumstantiated, and if he were so made for Power, without an Incapacity of giving Jealousy, he would be also glorious without Possibility of receiving Disgrace. This Humility

Quotation
from the
Spectator

military, and this Importance, must make his AN' 1711.
Glory immortal.

THESE Thoughts (*says the Author of the Spectator*) are apt to draw me beyond the usual Length of this Paper; But, if I could suppose such Rhapsodies would outlive the common Fate of ordinary Things, I would say, these Sketches, and faint Images, of Glory were drawn in August 1711, when John Duke of Marlborough made that memorable March, when he took the French Lines without Bloodshed.

THE next Day (*August the sixth*) whilst *The French* the Allies expected the Enemy, lying upon *pass the Scheld.* their Arms, Advice was brought to the Duke of Marlborough, that they were in Motion towards the Scheld, in Order to pass it, at Crevecoeur, and encamp between Cambray and Bouchain, to prevent the Siege of the latter. His Grace, hereupon, detach'd forty Squadrons, with Orders to fall upon their Rear, but they found it impracticable, by Reason of the Morafs, that was between them: And, a Council of War being call'd, it was resolv'd, that the Army should, without further Delay, pass the Scheld, lest the Enemy should get before them, and render it impossible.

When the Confederate Army first got within the Lines; the Field-Deputies of the States- *Advice given by the Dutch Deputies;* General propos'd to pursue the Enemy, and hazard a Battle; Since this Surprize had put them in no small Disorder. The Duke of Marlborough was, however, of another Opinion; He wisely consider'd, that the Attempt *Disapproved by the Duke.* might be attended with too much Danger: The Army being much fatigued with so long *His Reasons.* a March; The Cavalry had been eight and forty

AN' 1711. forty Hours on Horseback, and had only lighted twice, about an Hour each Time, to feed their Horses. The *French* were fresh; (having had a much nearer March, within their Lines, than the *Confederates* round them;) And the *Allies* were not in the best Condition for Action, till some Time was allowed them, to refresh themselves. And, besides, he prudently foresaw, that in Case of a Misfortune, their being within the Enemy's Lines might be of fatal Consequence to them.

He proposes the
Siege of Bou-
chain.

His Grace having thus disapproved of the Proposal made by the Deputies, it was expected he should make another, and he was not long in determining his Choice. He proposed the Siege of *Bouchain*, which he thought would oblige the *French* to endeavour to raise the Siege; And that might give Occasion to their engaging on more equal Terms; Or it would bring both a Disreputation and a Discouragement on their Army, if a Place of such Importance should be taken in their Sight. As well the *Dutch* Deputies, as the General Officers, thought the Enterprise too daring; yet they submitted to his Judgment. It seemed to them next to impracticable, to take a Place situated among Morasses, well fortified, with a good Garrison in it, provided with all Requisites for a stout Defence; and that in the Sight of a superior Army: For the *French* lay within a Mile of them. But to be more particular with Regard to the Difficulty of attacking this Place, arising as well from the Situation of it, as otherwise:

Difficulties
which must at-
tend that Un-
dertaking.

“ *BOUCHAIN* is but a little Town,
“ or rather Fortrefs, situate at the Confluence
of the *Senset*, and the *Selle* or *Rafelle*, into
the

the *Scheld*. It is about Nine Miles North of AN^o 1711.
Cambray; Ten South-west of *Valenciennes*,
 and Twenty-eight almost West of *Mons*. The
Senset, separates the Upper Town from the
 Lower, forms an Inundation between that
 and the *Selle*, and fills the Ditches, which
 surrounds the Works between the Upper
 and the Lower Town. The *Selle* separates
 the Lower Town into two Parts, and be-
 tween the Lower Town and the *Scheld*, there
 is a Horn-work, which covers two separate
 Bastions, and which is cut in two by a Ditch,
 supplied by the *Scheld*. Besides these Diffi-
 culties arising from the Situation of the
 Place, there were two other very essential
 ones. The first, a formidable Intrench-
 ment, fenc'd with Redoubts, and Fifty Pieces
 of Cannon, which Thirty Battalions, com-
 manded by the brave and vigilant Monsieur
Albergotti, had raised between *Wavrechin*
 and *Pont à Wane*, on the *Senset*; which be-
 ing but a Quarter of a League from the
 Town, and parallel to the Circumvallation
 of the *Confederate*, the Batteries of that In-
 trenchment might play upon the Circumval-
 lation, without Interruption, there being no-
 thing but an Inundation between them.
 Secondly, The Communication, which the
 Enemy kept open with the Town, by Means
 of a Passage thro' a Morass, which it was
 deemed impracticable to cut off. To which
 we may add, that there were eight Batta-
 lions, and 600 *Swiss* Soldiers in the Town;
 That the Place was furnish'd with all Re-
 quisites for a vigorous Defence; That Mon-
 sieur *de Ravignan* had thrown himself into the
 Town to command the Troops, and taken

AN^d 1711. " 500 Grenadiers with him; And that Mon-
 " sieur de Selve, who defended St. Venant, was
 " in the Town before; So that the Garrison
 " was commanded by two Major-Generals,
 " animated by the Neighbourhood of the
 " whole French Army.

*All about the
 Duke dissuade
 him from it.*

*But he persists
 in his Resolu-
 tion.*

THERE was, besides all this, a great deal to be apprehended from the Excursions, which the Garrisons of *Valenciennes* and *Conde* might make, to cut off their Provisions, which were to come to them from *Tournay*. All who were about the Duke endeavoured to divert his Thoughts from so dangerous an Undertaking; since a Misfortune in his Conduct would have furnished his Enemies with the Advantages they lay in wait for. All this he was sensible of; But he had laid his Scheme, and taken his Measures so well; that he was assured of Success, and therefore resolved to venture on it, amidst all the Impediments that stood in his Way. But before this Resolution was put in Execution, the Duke dispatched Brigadier *Sutton* to *England*, with the agreeable News, that, without striking a Stroke, he was got within those Lines, which had cost the Enemy such an Expence of Time and Labour, to make and fortify, and the Strength of which they had been so full of.

THE following Letter, which was written by the Field-Deputies to the *States General*, illustrates the Matter more, and contains some Circumstances, not yet mentioned.

*A Letter from
 the Field-De-
 puties to the
 States Gene-
 ral.*

High and Mighty Lords

" THE Baron de Hompesch (our Relations
 " call him Count) Lieutenant-General,
 " took Post Yesterday Morning, at Four
 " o' Clock

6 o'Clock, at *Palne*, and *Bac à Bacheul*, with AN^o 1711.
 about 8000 Foot, and 2000 Horse, partly
 drawn out of the Garrisons of *Douay*, *Lisle*,
 and *St. Amand*, and partly consisting of the
 Detachment, which covered the Baggage
 near *Bethune*. The Enemy had, a little be-
 fore, withdrawn the Troops they had in
 those Posts, to re-inforce their Army; so
 that ours found no Resistance. By Way of
 Precaution, for the Success of this Enter-
 prize, Orders were given, about Six in the
 Evening, for the Army to be in a Readiness
 to march, which, accordingly, they
 began to do, about Ten, in Four Columns,
 by the Way of *Villers au Bois*; And going
 off by *Neufville* and *Telu*, directly to *Vi-*
try, they passed the *Scarpe*, and next, Morn-
 ing, by Ten o' Clock, the *Vanguard* was ad-
 vanc'd as far as *Arleux*, and *Bac à Bacheul*.
 This March was made with such Diligence,
 that the like has hardly been known, the
 Foot having, in that short Time, march'd
 above Ten Leagues, without halting, to
 which the Moon-light and fair Weather, with
 which GOD ALMIGHTY favoured us, that
 Night, did not a little contribute. The
 Marshal *de Villars* was informed of our
 March, about Eleven; But was so strongly
 persuaded, by the Feint we made for
 some Days, that our Design was still to at-
 tack his Lines, near *Avesnes le Comte*, that
 he waited till two, the next Morning, to
 be assured of our March. He then gave
 Orders to his Army to march immediately;
 But finding that our Army was already got
 too far for his to be able to come up with it,
 he himself advanc'd, with all the Troops of
 VOL. III. M

AN^d 1711. " the Household, in Hopes to arrive Time
 " enough, to dispute us the Passage of the
 " *Senfet* : But upon Notice, that Fifty or Sixty
 " of our Squadrons had already passed, at
 " Eleven, and particularly those of General
 " *Hompesch*, he retired to the main Body of
 " his Army, which was, by that Time, ad-
 " vanc'd to the High Road, between *Arras*
 " and *Cambray*. In the mean Time, our
 " Troops advanced, with all possible Diligence ;
 " But as the Passage could not be made by
 " *Bac à Backeul*, and *Palne*, our Rear could
 " not get over till Midnight. Our Army is
 " encamped upon the *Scheld*, between *Oisy* and
 " *Ejcrun*. This Morning, at eight o' Clock,
 " we saw the Enemy's Army file off, in four
 " Columns towards the *Scheld*, either to pass
 " that River, or intrench themselves, between
 " it, and a Marsh that lies near *Marquion*.
 " Our Generals did not think it proper to at-
 " tack them in their March, but have resolv'd
 " to pass the *Scheld*, this Evening, and invest
 " *Bouchain*. We are, with profound Respect,

High and Mighty Lords,

Yours, &c.

August 6, 1711.

A. van CAPELLE.

G. HOOFT.

S. van BOSLINGA.

De KLAERBERGEN.

The Duke's
 Enemies at-
 tempt to lessen
 his Glory.

THIS News was received in *Holland*, with a
 universal Joy, and no Encomiums were too
 great for the wise Projector, and indefatigable
 Conductor,

Conductor, of this Noble and well executed Design: But the Joy was not so general in England. When Brigadier Sutton arrived at Whitehall, with the Account of the Duke of Marlborough's passing the French Lines, it gave his Grace's Friends, indeed, the greater Joy, because his Enemies had given out, as they without Doubt wish'd it, that *nothing would be done this Year, in Flanders*; They went yet farther, and pretended to assign a Reason, why nothing would be done. Because (said they) the Duke was resolved no Affairs should succeed under the present Administration, if he could help it; They had the Assurance to represent the Duke and Dukes under the Characters of *Anthony* and *Fulvia*, and to insinuate, that his Grace, like *Anthony*, would resolve to let his Laurels fade, and sacrifice the Interest of the Publick to his own: But they soon found how they were deceiv'd, and this unexpected Success did not very well suit the Scheme of certain Persons, who having, underhand, made Advances towards a Peace, studied nothing more, than how publickly to avow and justify them. The Duke's Enemies, being thus frustrated in their Hopes, endeavoured to lessen the Glory and Reputation of the Action, by pretending, that he had only removed his Army from a plentiful, to a starving Camp: But that malicious Insinuation soon fell away, as well on Account of the Sequel of his late Success, as the Applause all Europe gave to the Conduct of the British General, while Monsieur de Villars was openly reflected on and lampoon'd, as well in his own Army, as at Paris, and had enough to do, to stand his Ground at Court: An evident Instance how some Men are led

AN^d 1711. away by the Spirit of Party, and can be bias'd by it to such a Degree, as to be blind to the most conspicuous Mistake.

The Confederate Army passes the Scheldt

PURSUANT to the Resolution taken in the Council of War, the Army began to pass the *Scheldt*, at *Estrun*, about Six in the Evening, over Bridges which the *French* had built there, and were secured by the *Confederates*, when first they entered the *Lines*, and, by the next Morning, all the *Troops* were got over, without any Opposition from the Enemy, and encamped about half Way between *Cambray* and *Bouchain*: The Duke of *Marlborough* having his Head-Quarters at *Avesne le Sec*, and Count *Villy* his, at *Harspre*, upon the River *Selle*. The Marshal *de Villars* ordered, in the mean Time, a Battery to be erected, on an Eminence, near *St. Martin*, in order to annoy the *Confederate* Generals of the *Right Wing*, in the Village where they were quartered, but without any Effect. Bridges were ordered to be laid, the same Day, below *Bouchain*, as well to open a Communication with *Douay*, and other Places on the *Scarpe*, for the Passage of such *Troops* as were to be employed, in the Siege of *Bouchain*, which was now fully resolved upon. This Place was invested, the Tenth, by thirty Battalions (*viz.* Seventeen from the *Right*, and Thirteen from the *Left*) and Twelve Squadrons, commanded by General *Fagel*, who had under him two Lieutenant-Generals, *Collier* and Lord *North* and *Gray*, four Major-Generals, *Goven*, *Syburg*, *Ivoy* and *Huffel*, and four Brigadiers, *La Roche*, *Lebec*, *Schmeling*, and *Schavonne*.

Bouchain invested.



CHAP. VI.

*The Siege of Bouchain, with other
Transactions, to the Conclusion of
the Year 1711.*

THE Eighth of August, N. S. the French AN^o 1711.
General sent a Detachment over the Sen-
set; upon which, the Duke of Marlborough, *A Detachment
of the Enemy
pass the Sen-
set.*
imagining that their Design was to intercept
the Bread Waggon and Artillery, that were
expected from Douay, passed the Scheld, with
the Left Wing of the Horse, and took Post on
the Hill of Vignonette, where he continued till
the Convoy arrived safe in the Camp. as did
likewise, the next Day, the heavy Baggage,
from Marchienne, which was convoy'd by Lieu-
tenant General Wood, with 2000 Horse. The
Marshal de Villars, had, however, quite ano-
ther Design, and ordered those Troops to en- *And intrench
themselves.*
trench themselves behind Marquette and Waver-
set, in order to preserve a Communication
with Bouchain, and prevent its being invested.

THE Duke plainly saw, it would be im-
possible for him to draw the Lines of Circum-
vallation quite round the Town, if the Ene- *The Duke at-
tempts in vain
to dislodge
them.*
my went on with that Work; He, therefore,
ordered General Dopf to pass the Lower Scheld,

AN' 1711 at *Mouville*, with twenty Battalions and forty Squadrons, the ninth, in the Night, to dislodge the Enemy, and followed himself early the next Morning; But he found them so strongly intrench'd, that they were not to be attack'd, without a very great Hazard. Whilst his Grace was thus viewing the Situation of the Enemy, and the Ground between their Intrenchments and the Town, the Marshal *de Villars* march'd, with his whole Army, over the *Upper Scheld*, and made a Feint, as if his Design was to attack the Right of the Confederate Camp. This oblig'd the Duke of *Marlborough* to return, with his Detachment, to the Grand Army, to be ready to receive the Enemy; But the Marshal's Design was only to draw off the Duke from disturbing the Troops who were employed in carrying on the Entrenchments at *Marquette*; For he had no sooner gain'd this Point, than he repass'd the *Scheld*, and returned to his Camp; It being impossible for his Grace to bring him to any Action, tho' the two Armies were very near one another, because of the difficult hollow Way, and *Defiles*, which parted them.

The French make a Shew of attacking the Confederate Camp.

But are not to be brought to any Action.

The Duke fortifies his Camp.

To prevent any future Alarms, in his Camp, during the Siege, the Duke ordered the whole Front of it to be fortified with *Lunettes* and *Redoubts*, mounted with Cannon, and join'd by a strong Line from *Ivoy* to *Haspre*. This being done, in two Days, his Grace pass'd the *Scheld* again, with fifty Battalions, and two and fifty Squadrons, to view the Approaches of the Town, and discover by what Means he could best cut off the Enemy's Communication with it; But he found that they had improved their Time, in such

such Manner, and carried their Intrenchments so much nearer the Town, that it would not only be very difficult to invest it on that Side, but even impossible, if the Communication which they had begun, from *Wavrechin* to that Place, should be finished, before the Circumvallation was drawn; And the Enemy's Intrenchments were too strong, and too well guarded, to pretend to attack them.

The Enemy attempt a Communication with Bouchain.

If the Lines of Circumvallation had been begun at the *Lower Scheldt*, and carried on to the *Senset*, as was at first design'd, and would have been the most regular Way, the Enemy would have establish'd their Communication with the Town, in Spight of whatever the *Confederates* could have done to prevent it; But the Duke, with his usual Penetration, foreseeing this, and finding that there was no Time to lose, gave Orders that the Circumvallation should be immediately begun, in the Middle Space, between the Intrenchments and the Town, and thereby cut their Design short.

But are frustrated by the Duke's Vigilance.

DURING the whole Course of 'this long War, which produced so many surprising Events, there was not so critical an Instance as this, in which the Reputation of two great Generals was so nearly concern'd, and their Skill in the Art of War so fairly put to the Test. The Marshal's Business was, if possible, to prevent the Siege, and thereby to retrieve, in some Measure, the Credit he had lost, by the too easy Passage he had suffer'd the *Allies* to find into his Lines. The Duke of *Marlborough*, on the other Hand, was fully resolv'd, not to let the Advantage and Honour slip out of his Hands, which he had obtain'd, at so easy a Rate, by that Passage; And foresaw, besides, that it would be very

A critical Juncture between the two Generals.

AN' 1711. difficult to make a good Retreat, in the Sight of an Army, equal, if not superiour to his, and in a Situation where he was beset with several Rivers, without having one good Post on any of them. This was the real Circumstance of Affairs, at the Time the Line of Circumvallation was begun, which was the twelfth of August, N. S.

The Circumvallation begun.

THE Duke gave the Direction for beginning the Lines himself, and then left the Execution of it to Lieutenant General *Cadogan*, and, under him, to his Deputy-Quarter-Master, Colonel *Armstrong*, an Officer, who wanted no one good Quality, that could recommend a Soldier. He had distinguished himself before, upon many Occasions, but never more than in this; The marking out of the Lines, with the whole Direction of it, having, under General *Cadogan*, lain chiefly upon him, and they were carried on successfully without any Disturbance from the Enemy.

The Marshal de Villars near taken Prisoner.

THE next Morning, the Marshal *de Villars* narrowly escap'd being taken Prisoner; When, coming out of his Lines, attended by a Troop of *Hussars*, and four Squadrons of Carabiniers, to observe the Duke of *Marlborough's* Motions, he was met and attack'd by an equal Number of the *Confederates*, under General *Cadogan*, who charged them so briskly, that they broke their Squadrons, and took a Brigadier, a Major, and two Captains, with some other Persons of Distinction, Prisoners, the Marshal himself narrowly escaping. *French* Writers pretend, the *Confederate* Party was much superiour, in Number, to theirs, and that the Marshal, seeing his Troops surrounded by them, without any Possibility of standing it against so great a Superiority,

periority, bravely fought his Way thro', and AN' 1711.
was follow'd by his Troops.

THE Marshal, having now discover'd what *The French*
Measures the Duke had taken, to draw his Line *make three*
of Circumvallation, enter'd upon a new Pro- *Redoubts.*

ject, and the thirteenth in the Night, ordered
three Redoubts to be made, between *Wavrechin*
and the Town. By this, he propos'd not only

to open a Communication with it, but also to
hinder the Circumvallation from being carried
on to the *Senset*. Upon Intelligence hereof,

the Duke of *Marlborough* march'd, the four-
teenth, before break of Day, with a Detach-
ment of Troops, and twenty Cannon, to dislodge

the Enemy, who, as soon as he appeared, re- *But are driven*
tired from their Intrenchments; And to prevent *from them.*

any farther Interruption, on that Side, he re-
inforc'd his Troops there to 100 Battalions and
70 Squadrons, whereupon the Circumvallation
was carried on to the *Senset*, without any farther
Opposition, and those Redoubts taken within
them.

ALL these Disappointments did not yet deter *The Marshal*
the Marshal from a farther Attempt. He let *de Villars*
his Men to work, to open a Communication *opens a Com-*
with the Town, thro' a Morass, between the *munication.*

two Rivers, where the Water was generally pret-
ty deep: But, thro the Middle of it, there runs

a little narrow Way, call'd *le Sentier des Vaches*,
(or the Cow Path.) This was his last Refuge,

and he was so successful in it, that a *Parapet*
was carried on with Fascines, all the Way to the

Town, from Tree to Tree, betwixt the Wil-
lows and Rushes which cover'd the Inundation.

In order to cut off this Communication, the
Confederates, on the 16th at Night, being pro-
vided with a good Number of Fascines, laid

Bridges

AN 1711. Bridges over the *Senset*, below their Line, and over the *Scheld*, below *Hordain*, and from each began a *Fascinade*; into the *Morais*. The Duke of *Marlborough* went, the 17th, to *Mastrin*, in Person, to view their Works, and to forward those on his Side, and having view'd a Post the Enemy had in the *Crow-Way*, cover'd by a *Parapet*, 600 Paces in Front, he order'd it to be attack'd by 400 Grenadiers, who, being sustain'd by eight Battalions, despis'd as well the Cannon of the City, as of the Enemy's Entrenchments, and march'd thro' the Inundation, up to the Middle, and some up to the Neck in the Water, for several Hundred Paces. Being thus come up to the *Parapet*, they receiv'd the Fire of four Companies of Grenadiers, sustain'd by the *Brigade du Roy*, that guarded the Posts, and soon oblig'd them to retire.

But his Troops
are dissolv'd.

Bravery of an
Ensign.

AN Ensign of *Ingoldsby* Regiment, who was at the Head of fifteen Grenadiers of the same Regiment, being very short of Stature, seeing, when they were advanc'd some Part of the Way, in the Inundation, that he must either drown, or give up his Share of the Enterprize and return, chose rather to get upon the Shoulders of one of his Grenadiers, 'till they came to the *Parapet*, where he was one of the first to jump into the Enemy's Works. The *Confederates* had no more than six Men kill'd and wounded, in this brave and bold Action, in which they took Possession of this important Post, and thereby entirely cut of all Communication, between *Wavrechin* and the Town.

THE *French* having abandon'd so advantageous a Post, in so scandalous a Manner, the *Allies* had nothing to do, but to continue their *Fascinades*, and cover the Post they had taken,
from

from the Cannon of *Wurechin*, and the Town, AN' 1711. which the Fascines the Enemy left behind them, enabled them to do effectually, by next Morning. From this Time, they carried on their Fascinades with great Quietness, which, in a Couple of Days more, were brought within 200 Paces from one to the other, and cover'd by good Redoubts, there being nothing between them but a large standing Water.

THE nineteenth, about Noon, the Enemy made a Sally, with a considerable Number of Men, and attempted to surprize a Captain's Guard of 100 Men, which were posted towards the North Side of the Town; But were repuls'd with Loss. The same Night, another large Body sallied three several Times; But were as often beat back, with great Loss. The twentieth, the Town was wholly invested, excepting about 200 Paces, where the Inundation was very deep; And to prevent the Enemy's endeavouring, at any Time, to convey either Ammunition, or Provisions, by that Way, a Bridge of Hurdles and Planks was ordered to be laid cross it, by which their Fascinades were join'd, and all Manner of Passage into the Town was entirely cut off.

THE 21st the heavy Train, from *Tournay*, arrived in the Camp. In their Passage by *St. Amand*, their Convoy was attack'd by a large Party of the Enemy, from *Valenciennes*, whom, however, after a sharp Rencounter, they oblig'd to retire with a considerable Loss.

THIS Undertaking being the most hazardous, that had happened during the whole Course of the War, in which the Duke of *Marlbrough* underwent more Fatigue, than he had done in any other, and had a favourable Opportunity

Reflections on this Undertaking.

of

AN^d 1711. ON exercising his utmost Talent in the Art of War, I have thought fit to relate the Preludes to it, in all their Circumstances: And, indeed, the Marshal *de Villars*, to give him his Due, shew'd himself an active Commander, and an accomplish'd General, in the several Attempts he made to hinder the Investing of the Town, Which, considering how near his Army lay, was, as I have said above, a bold Enterprize. Some People took Occasion from thence, to arraign the Duke's Conduct, and attributed it to Temerity: But they who consider his Grace's great Foresight, so visible in all his Actions, and the great Dependance he had Reason to have, on the Courage and Conduct of the Officers and Troops under his Command, will readily form another Judgment.

*The Trenches
before Bou-
chain open'd.*

BOUCHAIN being thus invested, and the Contravallation drawn parallel with it, from the *Senset* to the *Lower Scheld*, the Trenches were opened, the twenty-third, at Night, at three Attacks: Two against the *Upper Town*, to be carried on by 31 Battalions, and 12 Squadrons, commanded by General *Fagel*, and under him, at the Attack on the *Right*, by the Lord *North* and *Gray*, having four Major-Generals, and as many Brigadiers under him. The Attack, on the *Left*, was commanded by Lieutenant-General *Colyer*, with the like Number of Major-Generals and Brigadiers. Besides these Troops, 40 Squadrons, under General *Dopf*, and 20 Battalions, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Witbers*, were posted, on the same Side, to observe the Enemy. The third Attack was against the *Lower Town*, under the Direction of Lieutenant-General *Schwartzzen*, with two Major-Generals, and four Brigadiers.

I SHALL

I SHALL not detain the Reader, by giving a Journal of this Siege; That it was carried on successfully, (and that Monsieur de Villars attempted no great Matters to divert it, tho' he was continually doing something to harrafs the Troops) the Reader will see by the two following Letter:

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Duke of Marlborough, to Monsieur **** at Hannover.

From the Camp before Bouchain, August 27,
1711.

SIR,

I Have received your Letters of the seven-teenth, and twenty-first, Instant, and am infinitely oblig'd to you for the News you send me. As for that of the Battle gain'd by the *Muscovites*, I find we must wait for farther Confirmation, before we give entire Credit to it. What has happened in *Scotland* is certainly a Piece of Effrontery, beyond Example; And I do not doubt but the Ministry will pursue the Authors of it with the utmost Rigour of the Law. The Part which the *Electrice of Hannover* takes in it, cannot but be applauded, and I am persuaded it will have a good Effect.

WE continue our Approaches, with pretty good Success, tho' somewhat slowly, according to Custom. There are, however, all the Appearances of a happy Conclusion; and the more, because Monsieur de Villars has given

A Letter from the Duke of Marlborough to Monsf. **** at Hannover.

AN 1711.

“ given us all the Time we could wish, to
 “ take our Measures with the necessary Cau-
 “ tion. I should be glad to see you again at
 “ the *Hague*, at the Conclusion of the Cam-
 “ paign, to assure you in Person that I am
 “ &c.

The Prince and Duke of Marlborough.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from
 Mr. Cardonnel, to Monsieur **** at Han-
 nover.

*From the Camp before Bouchain, August 27,
 1711.*

SIR,

*A Letter from
 Mr. Cardon-
 nel, to Mons.
 **** at Han-
 nover.*

“ I AM honoured with your Letters of the
 “ seventeenth and eighteenth Instant. The
 “ latter came to my Hands last Night, with
 “ that inclosed for my Lord Duke of the
 “ twenty-first. We do not yet know what
 “ to think of the *Muscovite*, or rather *Saxon*
 “ News; Some of our Letters seem to con-
 “ firm it; Others, on the contrary, will give
 “ no Credit to it: There may, however,
 “ probably be something in it; Of which, as
 “ well as of the Conduct of the *Northern Allies*,
 “ a few Days will give us a better Light. Our
 “ Approaches before this Place advance pretty
 “ well, and we have Reason to hope, that when
 “ our Batteries begin to play, it will not be
 “ able to hold out long. We are very much
 “ obliged to Monsieur *de Villars*, for having
 “ suffered us to take the necessary Measures for
 “ carrying on the Siege, without Interruption,
 “ by

by any Diversion, either here or elsewhere. AN' 1711.
 " He is without Doubt, projecting some De-
 " sign or other, but we hope they will all come
 " to nothing. Both his Court and Army are
 " very much exasperated against him, I please
 " myself before-hand with the Honour I shall
 " have, of embracing you at the *Hague*, be-
 " ing, &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

THE Approaches were carried on in the usual
 Manner, till the 30th, in the Morning, when
 the Cannon and Mortars began to play, from
 the Batteries, at the three Attacks, and they
 continued with such Success, that the Cannon
 of the Place were soon dismounted, and the
 Out-works ruin'd. The *French* made several
 Attempts to intercept the Convoys of the Be-
 siegers, but in vain; And so great a Progress
 was made in the Siege, by the eleventh of Sep-
 tember, that, notwithstanding all Endeavours
 used towards its Relief, by the Marshal de
 Villars (who, by the Neighbourhood of the
 two Armies, had repeated Skirmishes with the
Allies) the Bastion on the *Right* of the *Lower Two Bastions*
 Town was storm'd and taken, with little or *taken.*
 no Loss. The Besieged quitted, at the same
 Time, the Bastion on the *Left*, where the *Al-*
lies likewise lodg'd themselves.

THE twelfth of September, N: S. about *The Garrison*
 Noon, the Besieged, seeing that the Breaches, *beats the Cha-*
 at the two Attacks against the *Upper Town*, *made;*
 were wide enough, and that all Things were
 preparing for a general Assault, beat the *Cha-*
made, and, Hostages being exchanged, the
French, who were conducted to General *Fagel's*
 Quarters,

AN^O 1711.

Quarters, whither the Duke of Marlborough, and the Deputies, repaired, began to propole Articles of Capitulation; but were immediately answered, by the Duke of Marlborough, that he would not have them read; for *if they had waited to the last Extremity, they had no other Terms to expect, but to be made Prisoners of War; Bidding them acquaint their Commander with it, and send back the Hostages, if he would not accept these Conditions.* Upon the Return of the Hostages into the Town, the Governour refused to comply; The Hostilities were, therefore, immediately renewed, with such Fury, and the Besiegers made such a terrible Fire from their Cannon, Mortars, and small Shot, that the Besieged hung out a White Flag, at all their Attacks, and beat a Parly again, the same Day. New Hostages being exchanged, they consented to surrender Prisoners, but demanded to march out with the usual Marks of Honour, and to be conducted to *France*, there to remain, without doing any Service, till they were exchanged. They pretended that they desired this Favour, because of the Misery the Prisoners of their Nation were reduced to in *Holland*, where they seem'd to be abandon'd by their Court, which took no Care for their Subsistence. This being, likewise, rejected, and the Fire again renewed, with greater Fury than before, they, at Length, agreed to become Prisoners of War, upon the Duke's own Terms. They delivered up one of the Gates, with twenty-four Colours, and all their Arms, the next Day, and marching out, the fourteenth, Major-General *Grovestein*, who was appointed Governour of the Place took Possession of it. The Soldiers were conducted

And surrenders Prisoners of War.

ducted to *Marchienne*, in order to be sent to AN' 1711.
Holland, but the Officer continued in *Bouchain*,
till farther Orders.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* gave an Account
of this Success, the same Day, to the Court of
Hannover, in the following Letter :

TRANSLATION of a Letter from
the Duke of *Marlborough*, to a Gentleman
at the Court of *Hannover*.

From the Camp before *Bouchain*, Sept. 14.
1711.

" PERMIT me, Sir, at the same Time, *A Letter from*
" that I thank you for your Letter of the *the Duke of*
" 31st past, to rejoice with you, at the happy *Marlborough*
" Success of our Siege. The Garrison, to the *to a Gentleman*
" Number of more than 3000 Men, has been *at Hannover.*
" obliged to surrender Prisoners of War, and
" that in the Sight of the Enemy's Army. I take
" the Liberty of congratulating His *Electoral*
" Highness, and His Highness, the Prince, on
" this Occasion, by the Letters inclosed, which
" I recommend to your Care, and am, &c.

The Prince and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

THE Marshal *de Villars*, that he might *The Marshal*
not be reckon'd a tame Spectator of the Siege, *de Villars's*
form'd two Designs, during the Continuation of *fruitless At-*
it. The first was to possess himself of the *tempt at Hor-*
Communication the *Allies* had over the Morass, *dain.*
near *Hordain* ; To this End, he detach'd 2000
Grenadiers, sustain'd by a Body of 1000 Fus-
VOL. III. N liers,

AN^d 1711. liers, to attack *Hordain*; And, at the same Time, 1500 Grenadiers more, sustain'd by a Brigade of Foot, from *Wavrechin*, were ordered to attack the Fascines, in the Morafs. The former made a Bridge over the *Schell*, near *Estrun*, and, passing that River unseen, by the Favour of a dark Night, thought to have surprized two Battalions at *Hordain*; But the Duke of *Marborough*, having got Intelligence before they could get thither, sent Word to Lieutenant-General *Finck*, who commanded there, to be upon his Guard: So that the Enemy advancing, that General, with the Officers and Troops under his Command, behav'd themselves so bravely, and received them so warmly, that they were glad to retire, with the Loss of a considerable Number of Men, and without any farther Advantage, than making the *Prussian* Major-General *Borck*, Prisoner. The Troops from *Wavrechin*, which attack'd the Fort in the Morafs, had no better Success, being soon beat off, by the *Confederate* Troops, and obliged to retire with the greatest Precipitation.

French Account of it.

THE *French* pretend to a much greater Advantage by this Attempt, and say, that besides Major-General *Borck*, Count *Denhoff*, who commanded that Post, a Colonel, three Captains, an Ensign, two Engineers, and sixty Soldiers, were taken, with a very considerable Booty, in the Houses of *Hordain*, in which a great Number of the *Confederate* Officers had their Quarters; And that the Remainder of two of the *Confederate* Battalions was entirely cut to Pieces.

His Design on Jonay;

THE Marshal's second Design was to surprize *Douay*; And this being a Matter of great Import-

Importance, he sent fifty Waggon, laden with AN' 1711.
Boats, Scaling Ladders, and other proper Ma-
terials, for the Enterprize, under a Detach-
ment of 10,000 Men commanded by Lieute-
nant-General *Alberghotti*. This Officer, having
passed the *Senset*, the seventh, in the Evening,
march'd with all the Diligence possible, and
got to the Gate of *St. Elo*, where their De-
sign was to scale the Wall, whilst others got
over the Inundation in Boats, to favour the At-
tempt, which the Marshal *de Villars* honoured,
himself, with his Presence. Count *Hompesch*,
Governour of the Town, had got Intelligence
of their March, and necessary Orders were
distributed for giving them a warm Reception;
Accordingly, they no sooner approach'd, which
was between one and two in the Morning, but
they were challenged by the Centinels, and, not
answering to the Purpose, were fir'd upon, as
well from the Walls, as the outward Works.
Upon this they retired, with such Precipitation,
that they left their Boats behind them, and
repass'd the *Senset*. The Duke of *Marlborough*
having Advice of these Proceedings, Lieute-
nant-General *Cadogan* was sent with Orders for
the Troops, on the other Side of the *Scheld*,
under the Command of General *Dopff*, and
Lieutenant-General *Withers*, to march, and en-
deavour to cut off their Retreat. These Troops
were in Motion before Day; But, in their
March, the *Hussars*, who were sent before to
get Intelligence of the Enemy's Motions, came
back with several Prisoners, and brought No-
tice of the Enemy's precipitate Retreat; Upon
which, they returned to their Camp.

*Likewise mis-
carries.*

BOTH these Undertakings having thus proved
unsuccessful, the Marshal *de Villars* found him-

*Loss of the
French at
Bou...*

AN 1711. fell under a Necessity of being a bare Eye-witness, at the Head of near 100,000 Men that *Bouchain* was fairly taken, and the Garrison (which was reduced from 6000 effective Men, that it consisted of, at the Beginning of the Siege, to half that Number) made Prisoners of War. The *French* Officers, as I have said above, were allowed to stay in *Bouchain*, till farther Orders, to the Number of about 229, viz. Two Major-Generals, two Brigadiers, eight Colonels, four Lieutenant-Colonels, three Majors, seventy-six Captains, eighty-three Lieutenants, and fifty-one Sub-Lieutenants.

Some Reflections on this Siege.

THE Governour pretended, that he was in a Condition to have held out some Days longer; But that the Soldiers, perceiving the Marshal *de Villars* did not attempt their Relief, as he had promised them, forced him to capitulate. It was, indeed, something surprizing, that this General, having a superior Army to the *Allies*, suffered this important Place to be taken, in his View, without making any real Efforts to raise the Siege: But the Duke of *Marlborough* had taken his Measures so wisely, that Monsieur *de Villars* easily foresaw, if he offered to attack his Grace's Camp, he should probably lose the greater Part of the Army, as well as the Town.

A Monument of the Duke's Glory

THE Duke's Stratagem, in passing the Lines, without the Loss of a Man; The Cutting off the Communication of the Enemy with *Bouchain*; The Manner of the Duke's surprising the Town, with an inferiour Army; His calling up Lines, making regular Forts, raising Batteries, laying Bridges over a River, making a Morass passable, and providing for the Security

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rity of his Convoys, against a superior Army, AN' 1711 on the one Side, and the numerous Garrisons of Condé and Valenciennes, on the other, were Enterprizes Truly Heroick: Yet his Grace was censured by insolent Scribblers of his own Nation, who gave out, *it was no more than a Dove-House*; Of which I shall take Occasion to say more below.

THE following Medal was, however, struck, on this Occasion.

ON the Right Side, the Queen's Head, and *A Medal struck on this Occasion.*
Inscription, as usual.

ON the Reverse, BRITANNIA, sitting on a great Gun, holding her Spear in her Right Hand, and her Shield in her Left, inscrib'd with this Motto, FORTUNA MANENS; That is *Constant Fortune*. A Soldier on his Knee, delivering up to her his Musket and Sword; and by him a Mural Crown. The Town of Bouchain at some Distance, The Legend, HOSTES. AD DEDITIONEM. COACTI. In English, *The Enemy forced to surrender.*

IN the Exergue, VALLO. GALLORUM. SUPPERRATO. ET. BUCHEMIS. CAPTO. MDCCXI. In English, *The French Lines forc'd, and Bouchain taken, 1711.*

THE French, according to Custom, pretend- *The French*
ed, on their Side, to lessen our Hero's Glory, *endeavour to*
that this Conquest, which, they said, was very *lessen the Glo-*
insignificant, in the Consequence, cost more *ry of it.*
Men, by half, than it was worth; But it is
plain, they would have willingly sacrificed
many more Men, than it cost the Allies, and
have thought themselves well off too, if they
could have prevented the Siege.

AN' 1711. LET the French lessen the taking of *Bouchain*, and the passing of their Lines, as much as they please; It has been allowed by every impartial Person of Knowledge and Judgment, that the Duke of *Marlborough* shew'd as much, if not more, of the General, in these Enterprises, than in any Thing perform'd during the Course of the War: But how are these Things consistent? The Marshal *de Villars*, before the taking of these Lines, boasted they were the *Non plus ultra* of the Duke of *Marlborough*, which his Enemies did not now forget to upbraid him with. The Marshal is said to have been so vain, that, whenever he heard of the Victories obtained by the *Allies*, at *Blenheim*, *Ramellies*, *Turin*, *Oudenarde*, &c. he was used to say; *Je ne sçaurois être par tout*; (I cannot be every where;) proudly intimating, that Success attended him every where; which Vanity of his gave Occasion to the following Lines,

Verses on Monsieur de Villars's Vanity.

I.
*Le Non plus ultra est surpris,
 Villars pleurez votre imprudence;
 Vous l'avez mis à si haut prix,
 Que la Perte en est d'importance:
 Mai consolez vous après tout,
 Vous ne sçauriez être par tout.*

II.
*Près du Moulin à quatre Dents,
 Depuis trois Nuits, sur votre Ligne
 Dans vos Airs vains et menaçants
 Vous attendiez Victoire insigne,
 My Lord vous cherche à l'autre bout,
 Vous ne sçauriez être par tout.*

Englified

Englified thus : . .

I.

THY *Non plus ultra*'s sudden Fate,
Unwary *Villars* thou may'st mourn ;
Thou priz'dst it at so high a Rate,
The Loss is hardly to be born ;
But Courage ! Men are satisfied,
Thou could'st not be on every Side.

II.

SAFE in thy Line, the other Night,
Not far from yonder whirling Mill,
Thy Merc'ry rose to such a Height,
As promis'd Vict'ry notable :
But *Marlbro'* knocks at t'other Door,
And *Villars* can't be Back and Fore.

As for the Importance of *Bouchain*, the Reader will judge of it, by the Value set upon it, in the following Letter from the Field-Deputies to the *States General*: Which, likewise, attributes to the Duke of *Marlborough*, the Honour, that his Valour and Conduct, in this Campaign, justly merited.

High and Mighty Lords,

“ THE Enemy having beat a *Doyle*, *The Field-De-*
“ Y, Yesterday, the Capitulation was agreed *puties Letter to*
“ to, this Morning, whereby the Garrison is *the States-*
“ made Prisoners of War. It is with the ut- *General.*
“ most Satisfaction, that we do ourselves the
“ Honour to congratulate Your High Mighti-

AN^o 1711. “ *nesses* on the Conquest, with which GOD AL-
 “ MIGHTY has been pleased to bless the Arms
 “ of the *State*, and Your *High Allies*. This
 “ Place is of so great Importance, in Respect
 “ to its Situation, which opens a Way, to pene-
 “ trate farther into the Enemy's Territories,
 “ and even into the very Heart of their Coun-
 “ try, that, for Prevention, they have found it
 “ necessary to burn the Forrage, in their own
 “ Territories. If the concomitant Circum-
 “ stances of this Conquest are but duly confi-
 “ dered, as the passing of the Lines, which
 “ the Enemy, and the Rest of the World,
 “ thought impossible; and the Siege carried on
 “ with so much Speed, and in so Glorious a
 “ Manner, in Sight of an Army of equal, if
 “ not superior Strength; We say, if all these
 “ things are but rightly considered, it will ap-
 “ pear, that the Conduct, Firmness, and Va-
 “ lour, which the Duke of *Marlborough*, and
 “ the Count *de Tilly*, have shewn, in the Pro-
 “ secution of this glorious Enterprize, cannot
 “ be sufficiently praised. That we may like-
 “ wise do Justice to General *Fagel*, who com-
 “ manded the Siege, we find ourselves obliged
 “ to say, that his Courage, and indefatigable
 “ Care, have very much contributed to the
 “ speedy Conquest of this important Place.
 “ But above all, we return Thanks to AL-
 “ MIGHTY GOD, who has made Use of those
 “ Generals, as happy Instruments for accom-
 “ plishing his Will, and Mercies. We pray
 “ GOD, that he will continue his Blessings on
 “ the Arms of Your *High Mightinesses*, that
 “ this bloody and expensive War may be
 “ turn'd into an happy, and lasting Peace.
 “ We take the Liberty to propose Major-Ge-
 “ neral

“ neral Grovestein for Commander, and Captain AN’ 1711.
 “ Keppel for Major of the Place, who are to
 “ take Possession of it, and we hope, that Your
 “ High Mightinesses will please to approve the
 “ same, and remain with the utmost Re-
 “ spect, &c.

From the Camp
 before Bou-
 chain, Sept.
 13, 1711.

A. van Capelle.

W. Hooft.

S. van Goolinga.

P. T. Vegekin van Claerbergen.

THE private Soldiers, which march’d out of *A Dispute con-
 Bouchain, to the Number of 2717, were con- cerning the
 ducted to Marchienne, in Order to be sent to Garrison of
 Holland, as Prisoners of War; Which the Bouchain.*
 Count de Ravignan, late Governor of the Town,
 and the other principal Officers of that Garri-
 son, represented to the Court of France, as an
 Infringement of the Capitulation; They pre-
 tended, that the Conditions promised them, du-
 ring the Parly, were not made good to them,
 and insisted that they were only to be deemed
 as Prisoners, to be conducted home, and to be
 accounted for in future Exchanges. Upon this,
 the Marshal de Villars wrote the following Let-
 ter to the Duke of Marlborough, and sent him
 inclosed a Copy of the Complaint made to
 the French Court, by the said Governour and
 Officers.

SIR,

“ I HAVE been thoroughly informed, by *Marshal de
 “ the Count de Ravignan, and the other Villars’s Let-
 “ chief Officers of the Garrison of Bouchain, ter to the Duke
 “ of their just Complaints of the Word and of Marlbo-
 “ Faith infringed in the Capitulation granted rough, on th
 “ them Accow.*

AN^o 1711.

“ them by Colonel *de Pagnies*, Commander
 “ of the *Dutch* Guards, by Monsieur *de Fagel*,
 “ Order. You will see, Sir, by the enclosed
 “ Copy of all that pass’d thereupon, and of
 “ which those brave Men sent the Original to
 “ the King, to vindicate themselves, for not
 “ having preferred all Dangers, and even
 “ Death, to the Shame of surrendring Prisoners
 “ of War, that the Word given them has been
 “ formally broke. The Place was not redu-
 “ ced to the Condition of being stormed, since
 “ you were not Masters of the Half-Moon,
 “ and the Passage of the Ditch was not as yet
 “ begun. Give me leave to tell you, that the
 “ Want of your Consent does not hinder the
 “ good Faith from being violated, when the
 “ General who commands the Siege sends his
 “ Word by a Colonel, that upon that Word,
 “ the firing which had been begun anew, is
 “ discontinued, new Hostages given, and a
 “ Gate delivered up. I don’t question, Sir,
 “ but your own Glory will, upon serious Con-
 “ sideration, engage you to send back that
 “ Garrison, upon the Conditions that were of-
 “ fer’d them, when they surrendred. What
 “ can be more authentick, than the publick
 “ Protestation which Monsieur *de Pagnies*
 “ made thereupon, as a Man of Honour and
 “ Probity, in the Presence of all your Army,
 “ and of the Garrison itself, declaring, that he
 “ knew not the Maxims upon which they
 “ broke the Word, which he had Order and
 “ Power to engage. I expect, Sir, an Answer
 “ from you conformable to Equity. The King
 “ commands me to make Complaints to you
 “ upon a Fact without Example in War. The
 “ Count *de Borck* may be exchanged for the
 “ Count

“ Count *de Ravignan*, provided this last be set AN^o 1711.
“ at Liberty upon the Faith of the Capitulation.
“ tion.

Camp at Pallin-
court, Sept. 28,
1711.

I am, &c.

Sig^d

The Duke de VILLARS,

• Marshal of France.

To this Letter, the Duke of *Marlborough*, after having enquired and examined into this Affair, and found that the Complaints of the Garrison were altogether frivolous and groundless, returned the following Answer, with the Attestations of Baron *Fagel*, and Colonel *Pagnies*, enclosed, by which it plainly appear'd, that they had not the least Encouragement given them, to hope for any other Conditions, than to be made Prisoners of War, at his Grace's Discretion.

S I R,

“ I RECEIVED the Letter you did me the *The Duke of*
“ Honour to write to me Yesterday, by *Marlborough's*
“ the King's Order, to accompany the Ac- *Answer.*
“ count given by Monsieur *de Ravignan*, and
“ the chief Officers of the Garrison of *Bouchain*,
“ concerning the Capitulation; tho' it ap-
“ pears by that very Account, that those ~~Gen~~
“ tlemen own, what they pretend to have
“ been told them, by Monsieur *de Pagnies*,
“ was altogether without my Consent, or that
“ of the Deputies of their *High Mightinesses*:
“ I am therefore equally surprized, and sorry,
“

AN' 1711. " it should be believed, that I should have
 " permitted any Infringement on the King's
 " Promises, or the least Violation of the good
 " Faith. My Manner of acting with many of
 " the general Officers, on so many Occasions
 " of this Nature, ought to be to the King,
 " and the whole World, as so many Pledges
 " of my upright Proceeding, and I flatter my
 " self they will do me the Justice to believe,
 " that nothing was done, in the Treatment that
 " Garrison met with, contrary to the Capitu-
 " lation that was granted them. You will find,
 " by the enclosed Attestations of the Baron de
 " Fagel, and Monsieur Pagnies, that Things
 " were transacted so much otherwise from what
 " is represented in that Memorial, that there is
 " not the least Ground for the Complaint therein
 " mentioned: And General Fagel, far from
 " taking upon him to grant the Capitulation
 " insisted on by those Gentlemen, sent them
 " Word by the Hostages he sent back, That
 " he hoped they would not acquiesce to what
 " I offer'd them, in Concert with the Depu-
 " ties, viz. To be Prisoners of War, that he
 " might have the Honour to carry the Place
 " Sword in Hand; Which those very Gentle-
 " men must agree, could not have failed being
 " executed in less than four and twenty Hours;
 " the Breaches in the Body of the Place, as
 " well as in the Ravelin, being wide enough,
 " and our Men lodg'd on the Brink of the
 " Ditch, so as to be able to storm the next
 " Day: And it was some Hours after that
 " Message was sent to them, and the Hosti-
 " lities renewed, that those Gentlemen thought
 " fit to hang out a white Flag, for the second
 " Time, and deliver up a Gate to us. As to
 " what

" what they alledge, that in the mean Time, AN' 1711:
 " we 'carried on our Works. I must have the
 " Honour to tell you, Sir, That when the Che-
 " valier *d'Artagnan* came out with the Hosta-
 " ges, it was declared to them, before the De-
 " puties, that we could not be amused, but
 " that they were to expect, that the Works
 " should be continued during the Treaty. This
 " is a Circumstance which those Gentlemen
 " agreed to, and I am so well persuaded of your
 " Equity, that when you have seriously con-
 " sider'd these Facts, you will do me the Ju-
 " stice that is due to my Proceeding; And, if
 " necessary, inform the King, that the Com-
 " plaints of those Gentlemen are groundless,
 " and that whatever was promis'd them has
 " been literally perform'd: You will give me
 " Leave, Sir, to add, that the Refusal of let-
 " ting Count *Erbach*, Major General *Borcke*,
 " Count *Denbass*, Colonel *Savory*, and Major
 " *Wassenaer*, to come upon their *Parole*, is so
 " contrary to what we always used, towards
 " your Officers, that the Generals of this
 " Army complain of it publicly; And that
 " unless this Grievance is redress'd, I must be
 " oblig'd, in Justice, and by Order of the
 " Queen, and the *States-General*, to recall all
 " the Prisoners, that have been suffer'd to con-
 " tinue so long in *France*, upon their *Parole*.
 " I should be sorry that Things should come
 " to this Extremity, the preventing of which
 " shall wholly depend, upon the Facility that
 " will be given on your Part.

I am, &c.

Camp at Bouchain,

Sign'd

Sept. 29, 1711.

The Prince and Duke of Marlborough

THIS

AN^d 1711.

THIS Letter gave such ample Satisfaction to the Court of *France*, that Orders were immediately given for the Enlargement of those Officers, mention'd by the Duke of *Marlborough*, in his Letter, upon their *Parole*, and that the Exchanges should be continued as hitherto, by both Armies. In the mean Time, the Duke wrote the following Letter to the *States General*, in his own Justification.

The Duke of Marlborough's Letter to the States General.

High and Mighty Lords,

The Duke of Marlborough's Letter to the States-General.

“ I DO myself the Honour to send Your
 “ *High Mightinesses* a Copy of a Letter,
 “ and Memorial, which I have just now re-
 “ ceived from the *Marshal de Villars*, wherein
 “ he complains of the Infraction of the Capi-
 “ tulation of *Bouchain*, and pretends we have
 “ violated the good Faith towards the Garri-
 “ son. I would not miss imparting them to
 “ you immediately, together with my Answer,
 “ and the Declarations of General *Fagel* and
 “ Colonel *Pagnies*, upon the Fact which the
 “ Enemy complain of, that your *High Mighti-*
 “ *nesses* may see how little Grounds there are
 “ for their Allegations, and that we have acted,
 “ on that Occasion, with Honour, and accord-
 “ ing to the Rules of War. Your *High*
 “ *Mightinesses* will be pleased to observe, that
 “ all has been transacted in Concert with your
 “ Deputies, and Generals: And, I flatter myself
 “ you will likewise approve the last Article of
 “ my

" my Letter, to that Marshal, and give In-An' 1711.
" structions to your Deputies accordingly.

I am, &c.

As all these Pièces were made publick, and *An Instance of*
F. Daniel must undoubtedly have seen them, *F. Daniel's*
he gives the World an Instance of his Partiality; *Partiality.*
When he only takes Notice, from common
Rumour. That the Besiegers promis'd at
" Midnight, to let the Garrison have their Li-
" berty; Upon which Assurance, the Besieg-
" ed deliver'd up one Side of a Gate; but they
" were no sooner Masters of that, than they forced
" the Barrier, and made themselves Masters of
" the Place." Whoever will be at the Trouble
of comparing this Recital with the above Let-
ters will be easily convinced of the Partiality of
the *French* Historian: And whoever is never
so little acquainted with the Duke of *Marlbo-*
rough's Character, and strict Honour, must con-
clude him incapable of such an Action. *Mon-*
sieur de Quincy goes yet farther, and, in Oppo-
sition to the most evident Proofs, makes Gene-
ral *Fagel* acknowledge the Injustice done them,
and blame the Duke of *Marlborough's* Con-
duct.

WHILST the Works and Breaches of *Bouchain* *The Dutch*
were repairing the Duke of *Marlborough* sent *refuse their*
the Earl of *Albermarle* to the *Hague*, to regu- *Consent to*
late the Operations for the remaining Part of *the Siege of*
the Campaign, with their *High Mightinesses*, *Quesnoy.*
and as he judged, that the Enemy might be
troublesome, in the Winter, to the conquer'd
Places near them, without the Reduction of
Quesnoy, to obtain their Concurrence for the
Siege of that Place. But the *States* considering
how

AN^d 1711. how far the Season was spent; and the Difficulties which must attend such an Enterprize, in the Sight of the Enemy's Army; Especially in a Country where they had destroy'd all the Forrage; They rejected the Proposal. They agreed, however, that most of their Troops should be quartered in the Frontier Towns; Not only that they might be ready to take the Field, betimes in the Spring; But also to hinder the Enemy from making any New Lines, during the Winter, and oblige them, at the same Time, to continue their Troops upon their Frontiers, where they would find it very difficult to subsist them.

One more particular Reason.

The Duke of Marlborough acquiesces

THE Duke, who had been acquainted with the Negotiations, that were carrying on in *England*, by Monsieur *Mesnager*, from the *French* Court, and the Proposals he had given in, to the Ministry, from his Master, could not but perceive, that the *States* had this also for an Inducement, to make no more Sieges, during the Residue of the Campaign; in Order to spare their Troops till they saw what would be the Result of the Negotiations; Tho' their *High Mightinesses* did not think fit to insert it, among the other Arguments they made Use of for putting an End to it. His Grace, therefore, without making any Remonstrance, as far as I have been able to find, against lying still so considerable a Time, set the Forces at Work to level the Approaches, fill up the Breaches, and put the Town of *Bouchain*, into a Posture of Defence, which was not compleatly done, till about three Weeks after its Surrender, thro' the Badness of the Weather, which very much incommoded, both the *French*, and the *Allies*, who continued

continued encamp'd to see each other drawn off AN^o 1711^o to their Winter-Quarters.

As soon as *Bouchain* was put in a good Posture of Defence, and the Approaches were all level'd, both the Armies began to separate, having already greatly suffer'd, by the continual Rains, and the Scarcity of Forrage. The Duke of *Marlborough* having given the necessary Orders for securing the Navigation of the *Scarpe*, to *Douay*, and covering the Workmen employed in fortifying several Posts on that River, and on the *Scheld*, left the Army, the seven and twentieth of *October*.

The Campaign ended.

The Duke of Marlborough leaves the Army.

HIS Grace came the very same Day, to *Tournay*, where he was nobly received and entertained by the Earl of *Albemarle*, Governour of that Fortrefs. The third of *November*, his Grace arrived at *Antwerp*, attended by several General Officers, under a triple Discharge of all the Artillery. He there supp'd with the Cardinal de *Bouillon*, and dined the next Day, with the Marquis de *Terracena*, Governour of the Citadel, who had invited all the Persons of Quality in that City, upon Account of the Feast of the Name of His Imperial Majesty, *Charles VI*, who had been some Time before elected to that high Dignity, in the Room of his Brother, the late Emperour *Joseph*. On the fifth, his Grace set out from thence for the *Hague*, where he was received, the next Day, with all possible Marks of Distinction; And, in several Conferences with the *States-General*, entered upon Consultations, as well relating to Peace as the Prosecution of the War. He set out the twenty-third of the same Month, for the *Briel*, and landed at *Greenwich*, the twenty-seventh.

Arrives at the Hague.

AN' 1711. of the same Month, O. S. And thus, indeed, ended the Campaign, tho' not the Hostilities.

The French
make some
Attempts.

THE Enemy, getting Intelligence, that the *Allies* design'd to lay up large Magazines at *Douay*, to enable them to open the Campaign betimes in the Spring, resolved to prevent it, if possible. To this End, they assembled above 30,000 Men, and march'd in three several Bodies; One took Post on the *Scarpe*, between *Marchienne* and *Mortagne*, and rendered the River unnavigable, by sinking a great Number of Trees and Stones in it. Another Party blew up the Sluices at *Pont à Vendin*, between *Douay* and *Lisle*, and filled up the Canal for several Miles together. The third Party advanced to *Lilliers*, between *Aire* and *Bethune*, made a hundred and fifty Men, who were posted there, Prisoners of War, and so retired, if we will believe their Accounts, without any Loss. But by the Account given of this Matter, in a Letter, from the Earl of *Albemarle*, to the *States General*, it appears: "That the *Allies* pursued them, with all possible Diligence, and attaining the Height of *Fampoux*, in Sight of *Arras*, were in Hopes to engage them; But they retired with so much Precipitation, that there was no coming at them. That the *Allies*, however, harrass'd them so much in their March, that ten or twelve Squadrons of them were obliged to throw themselves into the *Scarpe* at *Fampoux*, and so got on the other Side. That the *French* were exposed to unspeakable Hardships, as well thro' the Badness of the Roads, and Weather, as thro' the Scarcity of Provisions, which together, occasioned an incredible Number of Deserters to come over to the

" *Allies*,

To their great
Loss.

" *Allies*, by Companies of thirty and forty at a Time. AN' 1711.

I SHOULD now proceed, as I have hitherto done, at the End of my Relations of the Foreign Transactions of every Year, to give a summary Account of what pass'd in other Parts abroad, where the Duke of *Marlborough* was not immediately concern'd: But very little happened this Year worthy of our Notice: The great Event of it was the Election of an Emperour at *Francfort*, in the Room of Emperor *Joseph* deceas'd. This great Monarch's Death, as it immediately opened to King *Charles* the Succession to the Hereditary Dominions; So a Disposition appear'd unanimously, among all the *Electors*, to chuse him Emperour. Some came in Person, others sent their Commissioners or Plenipotentiaries to *Francfort*. They spent some Weeks in preparing the Capitulation. Great Applications were made to them, to receive Deputies from the *Electors* of *Bavaria* and *Cologne*; But as these Princes were under the *Ban* of the *Empire*, they were rejected. The Interposition of the *Pope's Nuncio* was likewise very disagreeable to them: He gave them much Trouble; But they persisted in their Resolution. As *Francfort* was at no great Distance from the Armies on the *Rhine*, it was apprehended, that the *French* might have made an Attempt that Way; For, as I have said above, they drew some Detachments from their Army in *Flanders*, to encrease their Forces on the *Rhine*. This obliged Prince *Eugene* to do the same, and of Course he commanded the Army of the *Empire*, there; But without any considerable Action. When the Duke of *Marlborough* undertook the hazardous Siege

The Election of King Charles to the Imperial Crown.

Affairs on the Rhine.

AN^d 1711. Siege of *Bouchain*, his Grace's Enemies at home confidently hoped, that it would miscarry, and maliciously, asserted, that his Grace could do nothing without the Assistance of Prince *Eugene*; But, as Matters went, the Assertion might rather have been inverted, and said, that the Prince could do little without his Friend and Companion in Glory, the Duke of *Marlborough*. Prince *Eugene* came, however, in good Time, to secure the *Electors at Francfort*, who being now safe from the Fear of any Insult, went on slowly, in all they thought fit to propose, previous to an *Election*, and concluded unanimously to chuse *Charles*, who was now declared *Emperour*, by the Name of *Charles VI*; and He was crown'd, accordingly, at *Francfort*, with the usual Solemnity.

Emperour
Charles VI
crown'd.

Affairs in
Italy.

KING *Charles*, in his Way to *Francfort*, staid some Weeks at *Milan*, where the Duke of *Savoy* paid him a Visit, and it was said, that all Matters in Dispute between these two Princes, if any were left unadjusted, at the late Emperour's Death, were there settled between Them. It was hoped, that the Campaign in *Italy* would, this Year, have produced something for the Advantage of the Common Cause, upon the Agreement made before *Emperour Joseph's* Death. "And Mr. *St. John*, when he moved, in the *House of Commons*, for the Subsidies to the Duke of *Savoy*, said, all our Hopes of Success, this Year, lay in that Quarter; For in *Flanders* we could do nothing." It happened otherwise, the Campaign in *Flanders*, under the Duke of *Marlborough*, was glorious, that in *Italy* produced nothing. The Duke came into *Savoy*, and it was given out, that he was resolved to push forward: